

Dear Massachusetts D.O.E.,

As a Massachusetts taxpayer, I don't want to subsidize wood-burning biomass. Taxpayer-funded energy credits should be directed toward truly clean and renewable energy technology such as wind and solar, geothermal and hydro, and especially toward conservation and efficiency. Biomass for electricity is at best an inefficient 19th-century technology.

But beyond the now well-documented inefficiencies, burning wood is not "green" in any meaningful environmental sense. The carbon output of these plants pollutes the air even more than our current bad old energy source, coal. Harvesting the wood for biomass from our forests compounds the problem by removing the mechanism by which the already polluted air can be cleaned. The term "renewable" to describe a tree consumed for biomass in 30 seconds which will take 75 years to replace is, at the very least, misleading. We need to find, and fund, efficient, clean energy sources that are renewable within the span of our own lifetime.

Stop permitting new wood burning biomass electric plants and stop promoting and incentivizing other wood burning biomass plants, including those for combined heat and power.

Sincerely,
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